

# *The* SABBATH SENTINEL

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Serving the Seventh-day Christian Community

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November, 1990



## EDITORIAL

### *A Church that Knows How To Treat Visitors*

*I'm thankful that in the line of my duties with BSA, I've had occasion to visit many congregations. And I'm especially thankful that recently my wife and I visited a church that made us feel so much at home that we are drawn to go back to get to know people we had never known before.*

*It isn't that this church is more theological correct or more spiritual than others. The preaching was so-so; and the singing somewhat perfunctory. But what was out of the ordinary was their ability to make visitors feel like a welcomed part of their church family.*

*When we first arrived as Sabbath school was about to begin, we were greeted briefly by several people. The preliminary remarks and short message by the leader were not exceptional and I was settling in for the typical adult Sabbath school quarterly lecture (boring). But then the leader warmly welcomed all the visitors (we weren't the only ones) and explained that the congregation would be breaking down into a number of small classes. No sooner had we been dismissed that one of the teachers approached us and asked, "Will you join our class?" We felt wanted.*

*We gathered with 8 or 10 others and were introduced. They spent some time sharing prayer requests and talking about absent class members who needed prayer. As they explained to us that one of their group was dying of cancer, a lady left to get a card for everyone to sign for this sick person—we too were asked to sign. They agreed on who would call on missing members during the next week. Clearly, these were people who cared for one another.*

*After more sharing, the class divided into groups of two and three for voluntary prayer. We felt an emotional tie with our prayer partner. By the time we got into the discussion we felt an emotional and spiritual bond with everyone in our class. We knew almost all of them by name.*

*The worship service was nothing exceptional. But afterwards we got to meet more people, and of course, we were greeted again by the members of our class. One invited us home for lunch (which we were reluctant to decline). We engaged in spirited discussions with several people and when we finally left, discovered we were among the last to do so.*

*This was truly a church that knows how to treat visitors. These brethren understand the importance of intimacy and the fact that you can't be intimate with a big crowd. They understand the importance of small groups. So sad that such churches are few and far between.*

*How long has it been since you've visited a church where you knew no one? Try it sometime. Experience what it's like. Then return to your own and ask yourself, "What do strangers feel when they come through the doors of my church?" Maybe you'll want to make some changes.*

*—Richard A. Wiedenheff*

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**Annual Member Contribution:** Regular Membership, \$20; Family Membership, \$25; Life Membership, \$500 or more contributed during one year. All memberships include an annual subscription to *The Sabbath Sentinel*.

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**For those who don't know Him—  
Jesus Christ and Him Crucified!  
For those who do know Him—  
the liberty of His Sabbath!**

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And now abide  
**FAITH,  
HOPE, LOVE,**  
these three, but the  
greatest of these is  
**LOVE.**

# Wings Like a Dove

by Brian Jones



When the strains and griefs of earthly life overwhelm us, then our souls hunger for some peaceful haven of comfort and rest. We may not be able to express our longings in the poetic language of the Psalmist, but our hearts resonate in sympathetic accord with his words, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away and be at rest" (Ps. 55:6).

David, who wrote this plea, was not an escapist in the usual sense of the word; he did not irresponsibly seek flight from his duties, or hope to elude accountability for his life, but he yearned for the grace and support of God to help him live in the right way. He longed to fly to the throne of God to obtain mercy and find grace to help in his time of need. In the extremity of his anguish he cried, "Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in Thee: yea, in the shadow

of Thy wings will I take my refuge, until these calamities be overpast." (Ps. 57:1).

In the presence of God David found refreshment that restored and enlightened his soul. Instead of becoming, as a result of his fellowship with God, a dreamy, secluded mystic, withdrawn from all earthly cares, he was able to return to his duties with renewed hope, vitality, competence, wisdom and joy.

It is also our privilege to often take our flight to the mercyseat in Heaven's sanctuary, to come under the transforming touch of God's love. He will commune with us there over all things which He has commanded and promised (Ex. 25:22). At this sacred trysting place He will receive us, to pardon our sins, purge our dross, purify our love, perfect our faith. He will brace us for trial and duty. He will endue us with grace by which we can live

as His children, "blameless and harmless, ...without rebuke in the midst of a crooked and perverse" world. He will fill us with the fruits of His righteousness and make our love abound yet more and more in all knowledge and judgment, so that we may be sincere and without offence until the day of Christ (Phil. 2:15; 1:9-11). Solomon captures the glory of this experience in these words: "I sat down under His shadow with great delight, and His fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and His banner over me was love" (S.S. 2:3,4).

A soldier who was blind and legless was known to always have a peaceful temper and a sunny, thankful disposition. He was poor and alone, living on a meager pension which provided him with a bare subsistence. A poor laborer, who was healthy but discontented with life, asked the old pensioner why he had such a happy spirit when he had every reason to be discouraged and bitter.

The old soldier replied, "Dear fellow, although I cannot see with my bodily eyes and can no more march or run as I once did, yet my vision is illuminated always with the light that streams from the face of God, Who arises upon me with healing in His wings. He bids me rise up, not at present to walk, but to fly away far from all earthly sorrow and pain, and take my rest on His mercyseat. My earthly senses were once so gluttoned with sinful pleasure, that for my salvation their broadest and brightest avenue has been closed. My feet were once so swift to run in the way of mischief and folly, that I was brought to a forcible, lasting halt.

"Now, instead of sinking further into the mire of sin, I am given to rise to the glorious Mount of Vision as with the wings of a dove. I cannot repine my short earthly loss for all the everlasting gain my altered state has brought to me. And yet, my friend, if you in your health and youth turn away your eyes from beholding vanity, to walk in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake, God will bring no less joy to you in your bodily wholeness, than I now possess in my broken condition."

*(Let the reader be informed that the anecdote is a parable, and not a historically substantiated incident).*

Do you sometimes feel that you lie among the clay pots of dreary circumstance, persistent trouble, or shameful carnality, so entangling, so intricate, that you cannot speak of it without brokenness and bitter anguish? Does God not know all this—and does He not care? Hear Him utter with succinct and soaring eloquence your heart's mute cry: "Oh, that I had wings like a dove; then would I fly away and be at rest!" That dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit giving elevation and homing instinct to our souls that they might find mystic transport into the sanctuary above, where Jesus makes intercession for us. He calls us to flee as a bird to His mountain—Mount Zion, in the heights of Heaven (Matt. 3:16; Heb. 8:1,2; 7:25; Ps. 11:1; Heb. 12:22; Rev. 14:1).

God's invitation to fly upward is not to tantalize or narcotize our souls, but to emancipate them from gloom into the fullness of His redeeming love, flowing in ebbless tide through our whole being. This experience is the noble privilege of all believers; but we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God not of us (2 Cor. 4:7), and that we may do heavenly service on this earthly plane (2 Tim. 2:20,21).

Let us not draw back from this privilege because it is too exalted for our earth-bound imaginations and so wonderfully far beyond our deserving. God delights to bless the unworthy who find in Him all their hope and joy. "Though ye have lain among the pots (of poverty, problems, pleasures, pain) yet shall ye be as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold" (Ps. 68:13). Those who fly to God on the wings of this invitation enter into His promised rest.

What is that rest to which God's people are conveyed as on the wings of a dove? It is a resting in God's love, and His rest is glorious (Is. 11:10). Established as a memorial of creation for all eternity, but especially welcome and needed in the unrestful age, there is a heaven ordained

# Sabbath at Sommerhase

by Lettie Lippincott Siddens

This 128-page Sabbath storybook for families contains 17 stories and 13 Bible lessons—all relating to the Sabbath, all full of ideas for making the rest day an exciting one for children. The activity packet includes some 30 worksheets, games, puzzles, plays, and projects.

*Sabbath at Sommerhase* is available for \$7, the activity packet for \$3. Please add \$1 to your order to cover the cost of postage. Quantity discount information is available on request.

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refuge in time—every seventh day, the Sabbath, God's appointed day of spiritual refreshment and rest for man. Sabbath means rest. The day itself doesn't bring rest automatically, but those who know Jesus, the Author of Life, are brought from Sabbath to Sabbath on the wings of worship to the sanctuary above, there to behold the beauty of the Lord and inquire in His temple (Ps. 27:4). They find the Sabbath to be a door in time that swings open into eternity—into the very presence of their Creator-Redeemer. And in His presence they find strength to return to their temporal tasks on the other six days, braced for trial and duty, fortified with hope and vision to order their lives in the way of the Lord, Who sets a plain path before their feet.

Their pathway may be mocked, misunderstood and viewed with cold contempt by pragmatists whose minds have never taken flight to life's higher, enduring realities, who live for Mammon and the poor, passing interests of this sordid sphere. But that does not shame those in whose

hearts are the pathways to Zion, for they walk in company with One Who knows the way that they take as He conducts them to their holy destination.

No pilgrim who walks in such fellowship with Jesus has yet fully entered into rest from human wretchedness, from mortal frailty and strife. That will come when Christ, upon His return, makes full, universal restitution of His original way of peace and truth and eradicates forever the kingdom of darkness. In the meanwhile there remains a rest for the people of God. As we labor to enter into it, by faith, by active desire, by participation in gospel service, struggling against the headwinds of a dark, unbelieving world, God sends His Holy Spirit to give us wings as a dove, that we might fly away to Him, our eternal Refuge, and be at rest throughout our mortal days, until at His appearing, we receive the finishing touch of immortality, and our flight to His Kingdom will be no more metaphorical, but real.

*The author lives in Auburn, Wash.*

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## *The Sabbath Sentinel Salutes*

### **Mrs. Clara Beebe**

Mrs. Clara Beebe, widow of the late Rev. Clifford A. Beebe, is one of two living persons who can say, "I was there when The Bible Sabbath Association was organized." So far as we know, M. O. Flanery is the only other one. Though not a charter member, as was her husband, she was involved in the organization's work from its beginning.

When the BSA was organized in 1945 at Pomona Park, Florida, the charter members included George A. Main, who became the first secretary-treasurer, and his wife; Rev. Beebe; Mr. and Mrs. Emile Babcock; Golda Gerat; Mrs. Almira Butler; and M. O. Flanery.

Rev. Beebe was a Seventh Day Baptist

pastor for many years. He also operated Bible Witness Press, which published several limited-edition books that have become collectors' items.

Mrs. Beebe, who became 93 years old last March 19, now lives at Southwest Extended Care Center. Her daughter, Anne Beebe Lastinger, says that despite failing eyesight, Mrs. Beebe "reads the *Sentinel* from cover to cover with her lighted magnifier."

The Bible Sabbath Association salutes Mrs. Beebe in her ninety-fourth year of useful life. May she enjoy more years of satisfaction in knowing that she and her husband have blessed many people.

□□□



**Mrs. Clara Beebe shares a meal with her family.**



**Clara Beebe with four generations of children and grandchildren.**



**Clifford and Clara Beebe with their S.D.B. awards.**



**Clifford and Clara Beebe together in 1977.**



# Clifford A. Beebe 1899-1978

## *A biographical sketch*

*by Anne B. Lastinger*

Born on April 2, 1899, in Potter County, Pennsylvania, Clifford A. Beebe was the second child of Victor L. and Stella Andrews Beene. Cliff, as he was called most of his life, graduated from high school in Coudersport, Pa. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Alfred University at Alfred, N.Y., he went on to the SDB seminary at Alfred to study for the gospel ministry. It was there, on August 18, 1922, that he married Clara Lewis of Little Genesee, N.Y. Her ancestors had been Seventh Day Baptist ever since the formation of the denomination.

Soon after their marriage Cliff and Clara went to Arkansas to teach at the SDB academy at Fauke and pastor the church. Afterwards they returned to New York and Cliff was ordained to the gospel ministry by his home church, First Hebron SDB, outside Coudersport, Pa. in 1926. The Beebe's firstborn (the author) was born while Cliff pastored the Ritchie County SDB Church at Berea, W.Va.; twin sons were born during the second pastorate at Little Prairie, Ark. Thereafter followed numerous pastoral and missionary assignments in Georgia, Texas, Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida. It was during a time of service in Florida in the 1940s that

Clifford Beebe became one of the charter members of The Bible Sabbath Association. In April 1965, Clifford and Clara took the first missionary field trip into Mexico, to visit like-minded Sabbath-keepers, for the SDB Missionary Board.

Clifford Beebe had a keen interest in bringing the gospel message and the truth of the Sabbath to children and young people. He was a pioneer in establishing three different youth camping programs and taught innumerable summer vacation Bible schools.

During his half century of gospel ministry, Brother Cliff was bivocational, working in newspaper publishing and printing. In the 1930s he formed his own printing company, the Bible Witness Press.

In August 1977, Cliff was awarded the highest award of the SDB denomination, the Gold-headed Cane; the same year his wife received the Robe of Achievement, the only time that these two awards have been given to a couple.

On September 16, 1978, Brother Cliff ended his earthly sojourn. But his years of dedicated service to all of God's children were not forgotten. In March 1979, the main building of Sunshine Mountain, the SDB home for special children at Chatawa, Miss., was dedicated to his memory.

## **CORRECTION**

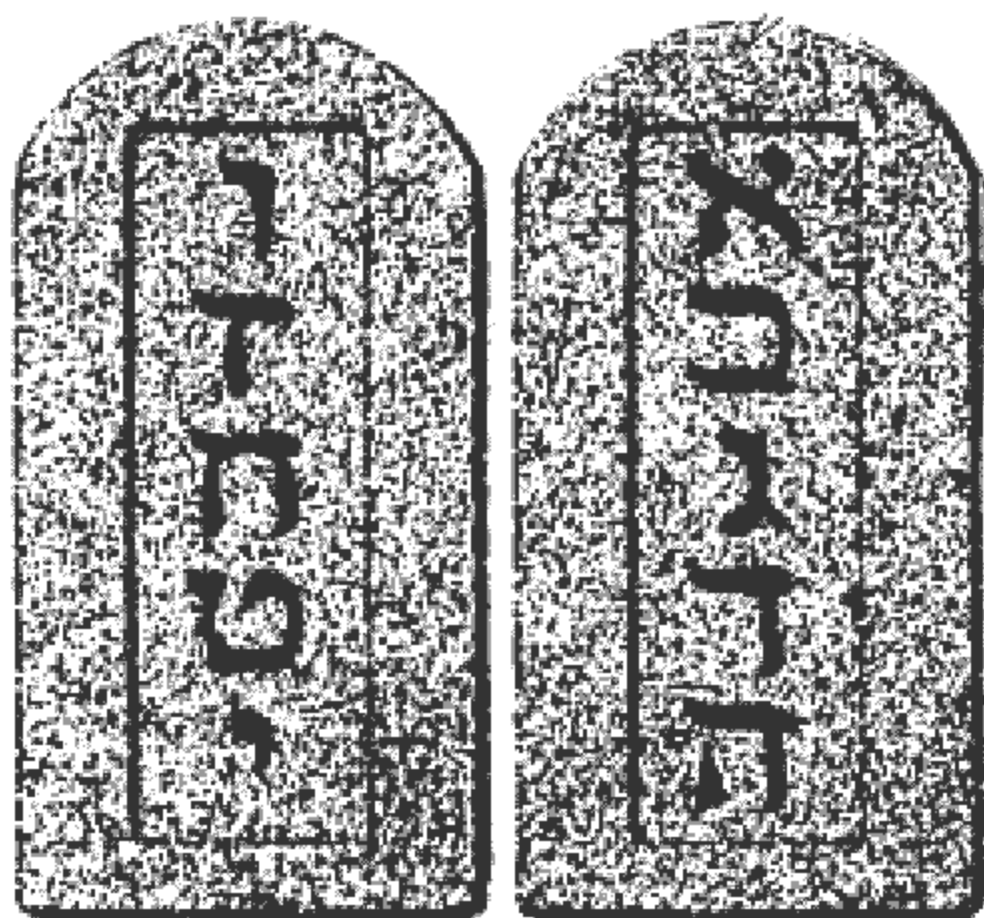
### **ERROR IN CALENDAR PRICE**

The quantity price for the 1991 calendars given on the back cover of the October issue was in error. Calendars for 1991 are **\$2 each; \$1.75 each for 10 or more.** We regret the error.

# The Perfect Law of Liberty

## *A Bible Study on Law and Grace*

by Clifford A. Beebe  
1899-1978



*Editor's note: The following is reprinted from a tract that was published by the author at Paint Rock, Ala. during the year before his death. It was submitted to BSA by his daughter, Anne Beebe Lastinger, who remembers helping to print the tract.*

"Now I have the victory,  
For Jesus has set me free!"<sup>1</sup>

"Delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."—Rom. 8:21

Wonderful thought—that Jesus has set us free! But, free from what? From the "bondage of corruption." But what does that bondage include?

Does Jesus set us free from sin? From sinful desires? From the power of sin? From the law? And if so, from what law?

### *Free from Sin*

We cannot in this life be freed from the

possibility of sin: for Jesus himself was not free from temptation to sin, "tempted in all points like as we are" (Heb. 4:15); nor can we be freed altogether from sinful desires, otherwise there could be no temptation to sin. But—yes! praise His name! We can be freed from the *power* of sin; for "sin shall not have dominion over you." (Rom. 6:14)

Although we were "bound in the darksome prison-house of sin,"<sup>2</sup> yet our Savior came to "proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." (Isa. 61:1, which Jesus used as a text in proclaiming His mission, Luke 4:18). Therefore, "turn ye to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope," cries Zechariah in one of the plainest Messianic passages in all Scripture (Zech. 9:12). The Good News is, that there is hope for us all, for Jesus has set us free from the power of sin.

But what about freedom from the law?

*Free from the Law*

"Sin must have no hold over you, for you live under grace, not under law." (Rom. 6:14-Moffatt)

How can we reconcile this statement of Paul with the "perfect law of liberty" spoken of by James? (James 1:25) Can we be free from law and still subject to law? And if so, from what law are we freed?

The very plain answer to this question is found in Romans 8:2. "The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the *law of sin and death*." This law is a very definite one, and one of the oldest in creation, going back to Eden itself and "the fruit/Of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste/Brought death

into the world, and all our woe."<sup>3</sup>

God had said (Gen. 2:17) "in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die;" and Esdras exclaims in despair, "O thou Adam, what hast thou done? For though it was thou that sinned, thou art not fallen alone, but all we that come of thee." (2 Esdr. 7:48 in Apocrypha) But Paul in Romans 5:12 places the blame squarely on us as well as on our first parents: "and so death passed upon all men, for that *all have sinned*."

The simplest formulation of this law is in Ezekiel 18:4; "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." A hopeless case! All have sinned, hence all must die. Prisoners in the darksome prison-house of sin, with no hope, no reprieve.

Order now!

Great for sharing with friends!

## BSA Sabbath Calendars for 1991



*The Seventh Day  
is the Sabbath*  
Exodus 20:8-11

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The Sabbath was Made for Man (Mk. 2:27)

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*January 1991*

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**Special feautres:** Sabbaths in red, information about moon phases, Biblical months, dates for festival and holidays, bible verses. The 1991 calendar is being published as a part of the December issue of *The Sabbath Sentinel*, so all subscribers will automatically receive one.

Order extra calendars for \$2.00 each; \$1.75 each for 10 or more. Please add \$1 to order for postage and handling. Will be shipped early in December.

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But—glorious news! The law of the spirit of life in Jesus has set us free! The soul that sinneth need not die; for "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Cor. 15:22) Because He died, we need not die; because He lives, we shall live also. The jail-delivery has come! The sentence of death has been commuted; the prisoners have been set free!

### *Nailed to the Cross*

Yet there are many who are not content to rest the case there. They will tell you that "the old law is done away—nailed to the cross." Is this true? What does the Scripture say?

Paul tells us (in Dr. Lamsa's illuminating translation) that "he cancelled the written bond of our sins, which stood against us; and he took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." (Col. 2:14)

The Law of Sin and Death was certainly against us: it was nailed to the Cross. The Levitical ordinances of sacrifice, clean

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS????

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and unclean, etc., were typical and temporary "until the promised seed should come." (Gal. 3:19, Heb. 9:9, 10) The figures, as the Epistle to the Hebrews clearly shows us, had to give way when the Reality came.

But the Commandments of God are not against us: they are *for us*, as Jesus expressly stated in regard to the Fourth ("the Sabbath was made for man" Mark 2:27) and so by implication in regard to the other nine. God's Commandments are *for us*, for our good, to show us how to live.

There is a perfect law of liberty; as Paul

## BSA Brochure

In succinct, easy-to-read paragraphs, this tri-fold brochure explains what BSA is all about. It outlines our mission and history, lists some of our publications and services, and invites readers to become members. A tear-off card is provided for easy reply.

This brochure is an excellent means of introducing fellow Sabbathkeepers to our unique association.

For a sample, send a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope. There is no charge for larger quantities; however, a donation to help cover the cost of postage would be greatly appreciated. Available also as a bulletin insert.

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Introducing  
**The Bible  
Sabbath  
Association**

Published 1945

- Serving the seventh-day  
Christian community  
around the world
- Sharing the Sabbath  
as one of the best of God's  
great gifts to mankind

says in Gal. 5:23, there is no law against doing right. The glorious liberty of the children of God is a freedom to do right.

#### *Salvation and Law*

Are we then saved by keeping the law, by doing right? By no means! For, as Paul thundered at Peter (Gal. 2:16, 21), "By the works of the law shall no flesh be justified...for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

Salvation by keeping the law is not possible. Paul tells us (Gal. 3:21): "If a law had been given which had been able to give life, verily in law would have been our righteousness." (Rotherham translation)<sup>5</sup> Law can change men's actions, but not their hearts; only the grace of God can do that. This is the deeper meaning of Jeremiah's teaching on the New Covenant (Jer. 31:31-34).

No, salvation is only by the grace of God, a free gift to the undeserving. There never has been, never can be, any other way.

But was there not a 'dispensation of law' in the Old Testament times? Were not the "old-timers" saved by keeping the

law? No; for Paul in the quotation above (Gal. 3:21) tells us plainly that it is impossible. Men have never been saved in any other way than by the grace of God. A careful study of the Old Testament will confirm this.

Noah, "found grace in the eyes of the Lord" (Gen. 6:8); so did Lot (Gen. 14:9); Moses (Exod. 13:12); David (Acts 7:45-46, for 'grace' and 'favor' are the same word in the original); Mary (Luke 1:30); and "time would fail us" to name all the other instances given. But one characteristic is common to all: it is to be noted that the bestowal of God's grace was followed by obedience; this is in accord with Paul's teaching in Titus 3:8. According to Bible teaching, the so-called "dispensations" of "conscience" and "law" are pure fiction. God's plan has not changed; the dispensation has always been of grace to the undeserving. But the Way has been made open and plain in Christ, who is the Way, and who, in the fulness of time, "brought life and immortality to light." (2 Tim. 1:10)

### *New BSA Leaflet*

## **Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?**

Just two pages long, this tract challenges readers to search the scriptures for support for Sunday observance. Then it presents biblical evidence for the seventh-day Sabbath. An inexpensive means of sharing the Sabbath truth; handy size for pocket, purse, or correspondence (3 and 1/2" x 8 and 1/2"); very attractive cover.

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### *The Purpose of Law*

Why is it impossible to be saved by keeping the law? Because that is not the purpose of law. And what is that purpose?

Paul asks this question, and answers it as follows: "It was added to make wrong-doing a legal offense" (Gal. 3:19, New English Bible). Or, as he says in Romans 3:20, "by the law is the knowledge of sin." The law can tell us what sin is, can convict us of it, but cannot give us the power to save from or to overcome it. That is the gift of God's grace. As Paul told Timothy (1 Tim. 1:8-11), the law is made for the law-breaker. We put ourselves "under the law" whenever we break it.

The prisoner in jail is under the law of our land, paying its penalty; the uncaught criminal is also under the law, and fears capture; but the law-abiding citizen need not fear the law, as he has not put himself under it by breaking it. It is the same in the spiritual life.

Praise God, we are not "under the law" if we have God's law written in our hearts, and do His will; for His law is His will. We are, in the spiritual life as in the secular, either law-abiding or outlaws; it is the law which secures our liberty and makes it meaningful; as we sing:

"Confirm thy soul in self-control,  
Thy liberty in law."<sup>6</sup>

In the "glorious liberty of the children of God" we are "not under the law;" for as Paul says (Gal. 5:22, 23) there is no law against doing right.

"For the grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all

### **How to Promote the Sabbath in Your Area**

If you are interested in sponsoring ads in your local newspaper that will promote the Sabbath and the aims of The Bible Sabbath Association, we can help you. Write in your for our information sheet entitled "Reaching Out Through Local Advertising."

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## ***Directory of Sabbath-observing Groups***

Now available, a supplement to the sixth edition (1986) of BSA's directory of seventh-day groups.

Includes more than 140 new listings of Sabbathkeeping groups, plus 85 changes to the 188 listings in the sixth edition. The supplement can be ordered by itself or with the sixth edition.

Supplement only: \$2  
Supplement and sixth  
edition: \$7  
Sixth edition only: \$5

Please add \$1 to order to cover mailing costs.

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mankind; and by it we are disciplined to renounce godless ways and worldly desires, and to live a life of temperance, honesty and godliness in the present age, looking forward to the happy fulfilment of our hopes when the splendor of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus will appear. He it is who sacrificed himself for us, to set us free from all wickedness and to make us a pure people, marked out for his own, eager to do good." (Titus 1:11-14, New English Bible)

1. Thoro Harris, "They Come from the East West."
2. Mary A. Thompson, "O Zion, Haste."
3. John Milton, "Paradise, Lost."
4. Geo. M. Lamsa, "The Holy Bible from Ancient Eastern Manuscripts."
5. J. B. Rotherham, "The Emphasized Bible."
6. Katherine Lee Bates, "America the Beautiful."

## MAILBOX

### Women In Slacks? — No!

I am writing a special letter unto you whether you like it or not. From time to time *The Sabbath Sentinel* pictured women wearing men's garments. In the July issue two different women posed like men. Don't you believe what God says in the Bible? Deut. 22:5—"The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment; for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God." Even the New Testament reminds us about wantonness and malicious acts. 2 Pet. 2:2—"And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the truth shall be evil spoken of." Even sabbathkeeping women have abandoned their dresses, but I did never see a man wearing a dress. Also I did never see a Catholic nun wearing trousers. Probably they know that would be abomination. Why BSA does not know about it? I think it does. But simply they don't care.

Cleveland, OH

**Editor's note:** In and out of church, this department editor feels, men should dress like men and women like women. The Bible, however, does not define men's and women's clothing; and we must not confuse culture with God's law. Throughout the ages both men and women have worn skirts, dresses, robes, pants, etc. Eskimo women would freeze if they wore skirts instead of leggings. Scotsmen in kilts have rarely been accused of being effeminate. Women like slacks because

pants are warmer and more convenient. They are essential to Christian modesty during some activities. As long as women's slacks are different from men's, as they are in this society, sexual differentiation is maintained; and sexual identities are not confused by clothing. That, this editor thinks, satisfies Deut. 22:5.

### Needs Free Subscription

I would like to thank you for the free subscription--it is greatly appreciated. I never thought I would be in a position to need to make such a request; but life doesn't always turn out the way we wish, does it? Chicago, IL

### Might Write for TSS

This letter is written to express my appreciation for the sample copy of *The Sabbath Sentinel* I recently received. In the past I have written quite a bit for my own personal enjoyment on various subjects relating to Christianity. I would be interested in learning more about the possibilities for publication in your magazine. Thanks again for the copy of the magazine, and my best wishes to you as you continue your ministry through *The Sabbath Sentinel*.

Norman, OK

We welcome letters, preferably short and concise. We reserve the right to condense and excerpt. Names can be withheld if requested. Write to *The Sabbath Sentinel*, RDI Box 222, Fairview, OK 73737.



## THANKSGIVING

*The good should be grateful to the bad—for providing the world with a basis for comparison.*

—Sven Halla

# BSA

## NEWS FROM THE BSA

### Confessions Booklet to be Reprinted

Our supply of "Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions" is virtually exhausted and we are planning a third printing of at least 10,000 copies. The second printing was used up in just over two and a half years. This is one of our most popular titles.

### Your Support Welcomed

Literature is our primary means of sharing the truth of the Sabbath. As we continually work to provide the best possible materials, we thank all who use BSA literature in reaching out to others and all who share in this ministry through prayers, donations, and encouragement. And we welcome your continuing support.

### Sharing Names and Addresses

Names and addresses are our primary means for introducing our association to new people. You can help by sending us names and addresses of Sabbathkeeping friends. Some have sent us local church directories. Don't worry about whether or not someone is already on our list, we check all names and addresses against our computer list before we mail to them.

### Do You Read Seventh-day Periodicals?

If so, perhaps you can help the editors. We're always on the lookout for news items for "News from the Seventh-day Community" and "On the Legal Front," short quotations for "To Repeat", and outstanding articles for excerpting or reprinting. If, in your reading, you come across material that you would like to see passed on to other Sabbathkeepers, please send it to the editor at 4150 South M-52, Owosso, MI 48867.

### Newspaper Ads

A number of BSA members have run Sabbath ads in local newspapers-with mixed response. One subscriber from Ohio has used a less direct approach with fairly good results. Her ad simply read "Free Bible Literature. Eternal life? Write..." To those who respond she sends a packet of material, including a Sabbath article. For more information, write to BSA for our fact sheet entitled "Reaching Out Through Local Advertising."

## Sabbath

### Bumper Sticker

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# NEWS

## FROM THE SEVENTH DAY COMMUNITY

### **SDB General Conference**

The Seventh Day Baptist annual General Conference, held August 5-11 at Bethany College in Linsborg, Kansas, elected Rev. Mynor Soper to serve as president for the 1991-1992 term. Althea Rood takes over as GC president for the '90-'91 term from Joe Samuels, '89-'90 conference president. Samuels gave the keynote address. A number of resolutions and recommendations were adopted.

On the issue of abortion: "Be it resolved that we as Seventh Day Baptists reaffirm our belief in the sanctity of human life as a biblical principle dating back to creation... including life from its very beginning before birth. To that end we call upon the federal government and our states to exert their constitutional power to protect the lives of the humans who have done no wrong and are defenseless. That... we urge our church members... to give moral support to those physicians and surgeons who are true to their hypocratic oath (which bans abortion and euthanasia--Ed.), and give civic support to candidates and elected officials who... uphold the sanctity of all human life."

Two other resolutions protested the actions of institutions in Finland because "one of our constituents, Anna Maria McElwain, is having difficulty at the Music Conservatory of Turku, Finland, because of Sabbath observance." Despite non-discrimination laws and the stated religious freedom policy of the Conservatory, no investigation of Miss McElwain's complaint has occurred. McElwain was commended for her Sabbath stand.

Recommendations passed that the New Age Movement and its influence be further studied and that K-Mart and its subsidiaries be boycotted until W. Jenbooks,

owned by K-Mart, "(discontinues) selling publications such as Playboy and Penthouse, which undermine the fabric of the family."

After a discussion of the use of the title "Reverend", the GC recommended that each local church and pastor decide.

Due to a failure to reach this year's budget, the 1991 budget decreased 6%, forcing cutbacks in some programs. Fifty-three churches sent 288 delegates. Total attendance was about 425. The "Growingest Church Award" went to the Lake Elsinore (California) Evangelical SDB Church for a 63% membership increase. The Black Hills (South Dakota) SDB Church, joined the GC at the conference.

### **Sabbathkeepers with Aids**

The two largest Sabbatarian denominations in America, the Seventh-day Adventists and the Worldwide Church of God, both acknowledged their members with AIDS. A two-day conference, "Adventists and AIDS: Our Stories, Our Response," on April 5-6 revealed that 20 or more Adventists have died of AIDS. Pastors need education about AIDS; and church members need to be less condemnative, more compassionate, the conference concluded. Reflecting the same view, WCG leaders have told congregations that AIDS sufferers in that church often contracted the disease before conversion or from sins after conversion of which they have long since repented.

Fear of contracting AIDS often translates into anger against those who have it. That fear is compounded by a general distrust of the medical profession and its reassurances. SDAs and WCGs question conventional medicine more than most. There is a place for anger at those whose profligate ways spread this incurable dis-

ease, also a place for kindness for the fools and little children who have contracted it. As AIDS consumes even more people, all churches will struggle with the chaos around them and the plague within.

#### **Burmese Baptist Conference**

Despite continuing political unrest in the dictatorship of Myanmar (formerly Burma), the 24th Myanmar SDB Conference was held in Yangon, the capital, February 1-3, 1990. Two pastors were ordained and three people baptized. Giving increased 30% last year. The church at Zonnam has reported a 400% membership increase.

#### **COG Choristers Tour**

The Sound, 11 students from the Church of God (Seventh Day)'s Spring Vale Academy, a high school in Owosso, Michigan, toured the West Coast from May 28 to June 12. They sang praise to God and spread the gospel in 16 churches in and out of the COG General Conference, even one Sunday church. Selections went from modern to the 1600s, including a cappella (without instrumental accompaniment) pieces. The Sound also visited Elder Stanley Kauer and other residents of the nursing home in which he lived.

Elder Kauer was a patriarch of the COG who had held many offices in his almost 60-year ministry. He passed away June 13.

The Merrybell Gospel Choir of the COG in England was founded in 1960 by Eileen Hendricks, its present director. The group has recorded LPs and appeared on the "Walter Weekly" BBC radio program, Capitol Radio, the Goodwood Folk Festivals, and BBC TV. The singers won the BBC's Gospel Choir of 1989 award, while member Godfrey Gayle took the Stevie Wonder Award for the Male Gospel Choir Soloist of 1989. In the summer of '89, the Merrybells toured the East Coast of America.

#### **COG Revises Radio Work**

*The Bible Advocate Broadcast* of the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day) is no longer sent over the Caribbean Beacon, a superstation in the West Indies. (See this column Jan. '90.) Most likely the responses received did not justify the cost. Local churches, however, support the 15-minute program, which can be heard in Marion, IA; St. Paul; and Portland, OR.

—Compiled by Howard M. Mesick

### **Have You Read It Yet?**

## **A History of the Sabbath & Sunday**

By John Kiesz

A concise, but authoritative, study of Sabbatarians

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—2 Corinthians 9:11-12

## ON THE LEGAL FRONT

Ontario's blue law was recently struck down by that Canadian province's supreme court. The Retail Business Holidays Act, which closed stores on Sundays, was widely flouted by retail chains to force the ruling. The judges said that the blue law discriminated against Jews and others who don't observe Sunday, thus violating the freedom in the Canadian Charter of Rights.

Christians in Nepal, an officially Hindu kingdom, have often been imprisoned for talking to non-Christians about Christ. Now due to widespread pro-freedom demonstrations in the country and pressure from abroad, King Birendra has granted amnesty to about 30 jailed Christians and hundreds who have been charged with proselytizing.

Jay Alan Sekulow, the lawyer who won the Supreme Court case allowing religious clubs to meet after high school classes (see this column Aug. '90) has been talking too much. Now, he says "Our purpose must be to spread the gospel on the new mission field that the Lord has opened--public high school." In the Christian Advocates Serving Evangelism (CASE) newsletter, he said Bible clubs are a "springboard for evangelism." CASE, for which Sekulow is general counsel, is preparing a pamphlet entitled "A Field for the Harvest."

To get the Supreme Court to declare the Equal Access Act constitutional, its advocates stressed the law would *not* become a "springboard to evangelism", but would redress religious discrimination in extra-curricular activities. Aggressiveness is the quickest way to make the court reverse itself. What ever happened to subtlety, the wisdom of serpents, the harmlessness of doves? The secularists continually push

their antitheism in schools, but not so blatantly. The use of tact is not lying. If Sekulow wants to evangelize high schools, he doesn't have to alert all his enemies. Pushing the gospel down people's throats in a crude, unsophisticated manner may turn off more folks than it converts. Americans want morality, not preaching, in the schools; therefore evangelism should be by example and not by arm-twisting. It should be, if done at all, quiet and unadvertised.

Legal suicide assistance is here, especially for those with AIDS. While assisted suicide remains a crime on the books, the moral barrier to it has been crumbling. In a recent *Philadelphia Inquirer* article, physicians admitted helping AIDS patients kill themselves. The doctors weren't named; but no great cry to find them has occurred. Assisting suicide is fairly safe, since many medications kill painlessly in large doses. A doctor merely prescribes the right sedative, then tells a patient how many pills will stop his breathing. Enforcement is hard, and the will to find and prosecute offenders is gone. Nonenforcement is a form of legality.

### "IN FOR LIFE"

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# TO REPEAT

## SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS BY OR ABOUT SABBATHKEEPERS

Look directly at an impossible problem or a terrible difficulty facing you and say, "Lord, I thank you that I am yours, and I know you love me and I know that you are able to take care of this situation and do exceeding abundantly above all that I ask or think!" (Eph. 3:20).

"His Workmanship" by Art Whetstone, *The Mount Zion Reporter*, Nov. '89

Prophecies recorded in the Bible were written so that true believers could look back, when the events are fulfilled, and see the hand of the Almighty. Bible prophecy was not written so that vain, worldly prophets could boast, "I told you so!"

"Prophecies Relating to Germany and United Europe" by Richard C. Nickels  
*Giving and Sharing Newsletter*, Jan. '90

One of the greatest threats to Christianity in the Western world today is what I call the "myth of painless human existence"... We insist on prosperity, affluence, and an ever-rising standard of living... The problem is that people demand this not only from society but from God as well... God's primary function in their lives is to safeguard them from pain and suffering. Thus, as soon as the events of life come into conflict with their self-constructed idea of God, they slide into the most logical conclusion--that God does not exist.

"Christ and the Will" by Karel C. van Oossanen, *Adventist Review*, Oct. 26, '89

When I'm laid back on my sofa eating a snack, drinking my soft drink while I watch a program that is seeking my help to feed hungry children, I see the bellies bloated because of hunger. I (sit) there watching this on my 25" color console with a VCR resting on top of it and do nothing to relieve the pain and hunger of that little child--am I sinning? Am I guilty of the sin of fullness of bread?

Frank M. Walker in *God's Watchmen and the Hope of Israel*, Summer 1989

Too often we are more concerned about what we know doctrinally than how we behave relationally. But all of our doctrinal propositions won't mean a thing in the final judgment if we went through life at odds with our (brethren).

Editorial by Jerry Griffin, *Bible Advocate*, Sep. '89

Certainly I have a relationship with Christ, I know I am a child of God, and have full assurance of my salvation. Yet the closer I draw to God, the more I realize I am still on the outer fringes of really knowing Him.

Editorial by Mike Ahlborn, *ACTS*, Nov. '89

*Quotes don't necessarily reflect the views of The Bible Sabbath Association.*

# Resources Available From BSA

## Books

<i>The Sabbath in the New Testament</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (275 pp.)	\$10
<i>From Sabbath to Sunday</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (372 pp.)	\$10
<i>Divine Rest for Human Restlessness</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (320 pp.)	\$10
<i>The Law, the Gospel and the Sabbath</i> by Frank M. Walker (91 pp.)	\$3
<i>History of Sabbath and Sunday</i> by John Kiers (164 pp.)	\$3
<i>God's Sabbath for Mankind</i> by Richard A. Wiedenhoff (64 pp.)	60¢

## Directory of Sabbath-observing Groups

Sixth Edition, 1986, only	\$5
Supplement, 1989, only	\$2
Sixth Edition and Supplement	\$7

<i>Sabbath at Sommerhase</i> Story and Lesson Book (128 pp.)	\$7
Activity Packet	\$3

Back Issues of *The Sabbath Sentinel* (when available) 10 for \$3, 30 for \$5

## Booklets

<i>Why the Seventh-day Sabbath?</i> (12 pp.)	20¢ ea.; \$17/100
<i>Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions About Sunday</i> (12 pp.)	20¢; \$17/100
<i>The Bible Sabbath: Seventh Day or First Day?</i> (6 pp.)	14¢ ea.; \$12/100
<i>Bible Truth About "Salvation by Grace Through Faith"</i> by F. Walker (32 pp.)	50¢ ea.; \$8/20
<i>Questions for Seventh Dayists Answered</i> by T. Littrell (18 pp.)	Out of stock
<i>Has Sabbath Time Been Lost?</i> by Joseph M. McGuire (10 pp.)	15¢ ea.; \$9/60

## Tracts

<i>The Rest of Your Life</i> (2 p.)	10¢ ea.; \$8/100
<i>Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?</i> (2 p.)	10¢ ea.; \$8/100

Sample copies of tracts are available free if you enclose with your request a self-addressed #10 Envelope with 45¢ postage.

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# ADS

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(11)

**Houston Harvest** is a community service project of the Assemblies of Yahshua providing food and clothes each week to the needy. Please help us witness in a caring way to those less fortunate than us. Send donations to either Houston Harvest or the Assemblies of Yahshua, P.O. Box 542222, Houston, TX 77254.

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**Singing Evangelism Tour:** Rosalie and Ian Tremaine of Australia are planning a singing tour in the U.S. during 1991 (see "Adventure in Evangelism" July '90 TSS). Groups interested in sponsoring and/or inviting them to come to sing and testify

can write 69 Gullview Rd, Christies Beach, South Australia, 5165, Australia.(11-12)

**Free Subscription to The Prophetic Word Magazine!** Learn the prophecies now being fulfilled! Learn the prophecies for our future! Write Box 2442, Abilene, TX 79604.

(2-1)

**Want to contact the oldest, healthiest, active people?** Write Hazel Richards, HCA #1 Box 12-69, Niland, CA 92257.

(4-1)

**Lantana, FL:** The Christian Church of God holds weekly Sabbath services. Serving southeast Florida (West Palm Beach area). For information write P.O. Box 3827, Lantana FL 33465.

(4-3)

**Light Magazine** opens your understanding to the meat of the Word. News events explained prophetically. No charge. YNCA, POB 50, Kingdom City, MO 65262.

(11-10)

**Good News Unlimited Meetings** featuring Dr. Desmond Ford: Toppenish, WA, Nov. 16-17, contact Henry S. at (509) 697-6234. For full schedule, write GNU, 11710 Education St., Auburn, CA 95603.

(9-10)

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